

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

SEQ ID NO: 5 is a generic sequence of an siRNA directed to human HIF-1 α . The sequence comprises 19 nucleotides from a human HIF-1 α cDNA (~~bases 528-546 of GENBANK[®] Accession No. NM_001530~~ bases 529-547 of SEQ ID NO: 1), followed by from 5-9 nucleotides of random sequence, followed by the reverse-complement of ~~bases 528-546 of GENBANK[®] Accession No. NM_001530~~ bases 529-547 of SEQ ID NO: 1, followed by from 2-8 nucleotides that form a 3' overhang.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 66, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To target human HIF-1 α using the siRNA-based approach, several siRNA targeting sequences were designed. Each siRNA was synthesized as complementary oligonucleotides and cloned into a pSILENCER[™] 2.0 vector as described elsewhere (see Brummelkamp *et al.*, 2002; Miyagishi & Taira, 2002; Yu *et al.*, 2002). The resulting constructs were verified by sequencing and screened for their ability to down regulate HIF-1 α expression in HeLa cells. The siRNA-encoding vector that was most effective appeared to be one targeted to nucleotide 244-262 downstream of the AUG start codon of the HIF-1 α gene (~~GENBANK[®] Accession No. NM_001530~~ SEQ ID NO: 1).